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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/604,820	08/19/2003	Chao-Wen Chi	10990-US-PA	1819
31561	7590	06/01/2006	EXAMINER	
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE 7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100 ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2 TAIPEI, 100 TAIWAN			DONELS, JEFFREY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2837	

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/604,820	CHI, CHAO-WEN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jeffrey Donels	2837	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The finality of the rejection of the last Office action is withdrawn due to the finding of new art; a new rejection follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Futamase et al (USPGP 2004/0007120) in view of Swanson (USPGP 2002/0013784), "Scalable Polyphony MIDI Specification," "Japan-Inc Newsletter," "RTX and RTTTL specifications," and "Infrared Data Association Specifications for Ir Mobile Communications."

Futamase discloses a portable telephony apparatus (see paras. 0031 and 0032). Applicant argues that Futamase et al does not explicitly disclose decoding the digital music file via a firmware. Swanson discloses an audio data transmission system which comprises decoding files of various audio data encoding formats with firmware (para. 0043). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt the teachings of Futamase with those of Swanson so as to allow for more efficient playing of audio files. With regard to Claim 9, it is well-known in the art that audio files of different formats have

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different ID.s in their headers identifying the format. This is inherent in the Futamase and Swanson teachings.

Neither Futamase et al nor Swanson teach the digital music file formats, SP-MIDI, MFi, RTTTL, and i-Melody, recited in the claim. "Scalable Polyphony MIDI Specification," "Japan-Inc Newsletter," "RTX and RTTTL specifications," and "Infrared Data Association Specifications for Ir Mobile Communications" teach the digital music file formats SP-MIDI, MFi, RTTTL, and i-Melody as known ringtone formats. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adapt these digital music file ringtone formats with the Futamase / Swanson combination, as they are well-known and functionally equivalent formats in the art, and so as to allow the combination to utilize a greater variety of files.


The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. "Beatnik SP-MIDI," "Beatnik's Thomas Dolby Robertson Demos Compelling Audio Applications for Mobile Wireless Devices," Magith," "Magith ringtone composer 2.0," and "Beatnik mobileBAE" are further cited to show related teachings in the art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey Donels whose telephone number is 571-272-2061. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lincoln Donovan can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 37. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jeffrey Donels
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2837